

Fourteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly

Bill No. 197

THE KERALA UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

(GIVEN NOTICE BY PROF. ABID HUSSAIN THANGAL, M. L. A.)

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Kerala Legislative Secretariat
2019.

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further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala University Act, 1974 (Act 17 of 1974) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India, as follows :—

1. *Short title and Commencement.*—(a) This Act may be called the Kerala University (Amendment) Act, 2019.

(b) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 9 of Chapter III.*— For section 9 of principal Act the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—

“V (a) Director of Research & Innovation;

V (b) Director of quality Assurance;

V (c) Director of International Affairs;

V (d) Director of Extension Service.”

3. *Amendment of section 16 of Chapter IV.*—For section 16 of the principal Act the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—

“VIII (a) Research and Innovation Council;

VIII (b) Quality Assurance Cell;

VIII (c) Entrepreneurship Centre;

VIII (d) International Affairs Council.”

4. *Amendment of section 17 of Chapter IV.*—Chapter IV, section 17, under “other members” of the Senate, the criteria is open to wide interpretation. Therefore it is recommended that an explanation be given in brackets to ensure that eminence is assured:

Not more than nine members nominated by the Chancellor representing (i) Recognized Research Institutions (Senior Scientists with internationally reputed research output) (ii) Recognized Cultural Association or Academies (artists or literary figures of national eminence who are members of associations or academies of minimum 25 years standing) (iii) Chambers of Commerce (active member for atleast 10 years) (iv) Industries (officers or managers who have more than 10 years of industrial experience in industries) (v) Authors (who have atleast 5 scholarly publications) (vi) Journalists (who have worked with leading media houses for atleast 10 years) (vii) lawyers (with atleast 20 years of active practice in high court) (viii) Sports. (sports persons who have won medals at national or inter-University levels) (ix) Linguistic minorities (Persons belonging to linguistic minorities who are competent to be nominated in one of the above categories).

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Kerala University Act (Act 17 of 1974) has been amended from time to time by Governments. Amendments have been exclusively to address felt administrative changes (such as modifying constitutions of the Syndicate) or due to change in jurisdiction (When new Universities were established) or to effect minor changes that were essential. In the 4 decades since the Act has been brought into force, there have been sweeping changes in social, economic and international outlook in the higher education sector, both in and conception practice. Universities are power houses in the creation of knowledge in a knowledge economy. Unfortunately, this is not reflected in the Act. Nor are the current concerns of quality, excellence, entrepreneurship, innovation etc. addressed in the Act. It is therefore essential that an amendment towards this needs to be brought in.

The Bill is intended to achieve the above objects.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the consolidated fund of the State.

PROF. ABID HUSSAIN THANGAL, M. L. A.